



The Department of English and American Studies

Poetry Analysis

ניתוח שירה

Course Type: Lecture (Theory Course)

Course No.: 0626.1217.01

Academic Year: 2018-19

Semester: B (Spring Semester)

Number of Hours: 4

Degree: BA

Class Meetings: Sundays 12-14, Webb 001; Wednesdays 12-14, Gilman 282

Lecturer: Dr. Roi Tartakovsky

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Office Hour: Wednesdays 11-12, Webb 511

Teaching Assistant: Ms. Dana Tor

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Office Hour: Wednesdays 15-16, Webb 507

You are welcome to come see us during our office hours and to be in touch by email.

Course Description: Though some poems are very long, a poem is typically a fairly small piece of text, which manages to achieve a great deal in spite of its brevity. There is thus an interesting disparity between poetry's material minimalism and conceptual and perceptual magnitude. Why is it, or how is it, that a poem grabs us or asks for our attention in the ways that it does, if it does? Through readings of poems from classical and contemporary English and American poetry, this course will provide basic terminology and techniques for discussing, understanding and misunderstanding poetry's modes of operation.

Readings: The poems we will be reading are available on the course website. Students are required to have all the poems with them for all classes, and to carefully read the poems assigned for each class.

Class Requirements and Grade Breakdown: Attendance is mandatory and absence of more than 4 lessons, for whatever reason, will jeopardize the status of student in the class. In this context attendance also means punctual arrival with the appropriate readings. We will have two midterm exams in class (the first is worth 30% and the second is worth 40% of the final grade) and a final paper (worth 30% of the final grade). Passing each of the midterms is a prerequisite for passing the course.



Final Paper: Guidelines will be given and posted on the course website by the end of the semester.
Deadline: August 20, 9AM. Submit on the course website.

Class Schedule:

Carefully read the poems on the Poems file that correspond to the headings for each of these dates.

1. February 27: Introduction to Poetry Analysis (class starts at 1)
2. March 3: Narrative Poetry, Lyrical Poetry
3. March 6: Words
4. March 10: Tone and Interpretation
5. March 13: Persona, Speaker, Poet
6. March 17: Irony
7. March 20: Imagery
8. March 24: Imagery Cont.
9. March 27: Figurative Language: Metaphor and Simile
10. March 31: Other Figures
11. April 3: Other Figures Cont.
 - **April 5, 9AM: Midterm 1 Moed A**
12. April 7: Sound
13. April 10: Sound Cont.
14. April 14: Rhythm and Pace
15. April 28: Meter
16. May 1: Meter Cont.
 - **May 3, 9AM: Midterm 1 Moed B**
17. May 5: Rhyme
18. May 12: Closed Forms: The Sonnet
19. May 15: Other Closed Forms
20. May 19: Other Closed Forms Cont.
21. May 22: Guest Poet: Karen Alkalay-Gut
 - **May 24, 9AM: Midterm 2 Moed A**
22. May 26: Open Forms
23. May 29: Open Forms Cont.
24. June 2: Performance Poetry; Political Poetry
25. June 5: Putting It All Together
26. June 12: Recap
 - **June 14, 9AM: Midterm 2 Moed B**

Note: This schedule is tentative and may change as the course progresses.



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אוניברסיטת תל אביב

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND AMERICAN STUDIES

החוג לספרות אנגלית ולימודים אמריקניים

Bibliography

The following books, available in the library or online through the library website, contain much of the material covered in this class and you are encouraged to consult them. In any case of conflict, the information, definitions and terms given in class are to be used rather than those found in the books.

Hoepfer, Jeffrey D., and James H. Pickering. *Poetry: An Introduction*. NY: Macmillan, 1990.

Kennedy, X. J., and Dana Gioia. *An Introduction to Poetry*. 13th ed. Boston: Longman, 2010.

Strachan, John, and Richard Terry. *Poetry*. 2nd ed. Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP, 2011.

Wolosky, Shira. *The Art of Poetry: How to Read a Poem*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2001.